

# Border Eagle

Vol. 53, No. 41

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas

October 14, 2005

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Photos by Master Sgt. Anthony Hill

## Fire Prevention Week

(Above) Lucas Free of Laughlin's fire department shows Victoria Cooper, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Thomas Cooper, 47th Security Forces Squadron, and Lyndsey Cooper, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron, how to correctly use a fire extinguisher during Fire Prevention Week activities conducted here Saturday. (Right) Sparky greets base residents as the fire department conducted a parade to start the week's activities. Fire Prevention Week continues today with a live-fire demonstration from 1 to 3 p.m. at the fire department and ends Saturday with a fire truck display, information handouts and fire safety trailer smoke house tours from 9 to 11 a.m. at the commissary.

## 19th Air Force to hold change of command

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE — Maj. Gen. Marc Rogers will replace Maj. Gen. Edward Ellis as 19th Air Force commander during a change of command ceremony here Thursday.

Gen. William Looney, commander of Air Education and Training Command, will preside over the ceremony.

General Rogers comes to 19th Air Force from Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, where he served as AFMC Transformation Director. In that capacity, he led the transformation of AFMC's and the Air Force's ability to develop, field and sustain war-winning expeditionary capabilities.

General Rogers is a command

pilot with more than 2,300 flying hours, including more than 180 combat hours, in the F-15, F-16 and F-117. He has served as an electronic combat pilot, aggressor pilot, instructor pilot, operations officer, squadron commander, operations group commander and 49th Fighter Wing commander at Holloman AFB, N.M. He has led combat operations in Iraq and Bosnia.

General Ellis has led 19th Air Force since June 2004. He leaves Randolph to retire in his hometown of Montgomery, Ala., and will conclude his career with a retirement ceremony there at Maxwell AFB in November.

He entered the Air Force in July 1971 after receiving his commission

through the University of Alabama ROTC program. He has held a number of command, flying and staff positions.

In 1999, General Ellis served as the night director of the Balkans Combined Air Operations Center in Vicenza, Italy, during Operation Allied Force. In 2001, he was assigned as commander of Combined Task Force Operation Northern Watch at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, enforcing United Nations' sanctions on the Saddam Hussein regime in northern Iraq.

General Ellis is a command pilot with more than 3,300 flying hours, in

See '19th AF,' page 7

### Deployment stats

Deployed: 15  
Returning in 30 days: 2  
Deploying in 30 days: 2

### Mission status

Mission capable rate  
(As of Tuesday)  
T-1, 88.4% T-6, 94.1%  
T-38C, 85.3%

### Alcohol-related incidents

January to October 2004 20

Jan. 1 to Oct. 13, 2005 20

Days since last incident 35

## Why do we serve in the military?



### *Commander's Corner*

**By Lt. Col. Daniel Gernert**  
*85th Flying Training Squadron  
commander*

Many have asked me the question over the years, "Why do you serve in the military"? With an open question like that I typically didn't have time to give them a proper answer. If you permit me, I would like to take the time now to elaborate on a few thoughts I have collected on the subject of service and what that means to me.

I grew up on a farm in north-west Ohio and thoroughly enjoyed the distinct four seasons. I was more than happy to remain at this one address up through the time I left for college. The background of growing up in a rural area provided a solid foundation that got me where I am today, proudly serving in the United States Air Force.

I soon realized how much we have been given in this country and how fortunate we all are to call the United States home. I loved to listen to my father and his brothers and sister as they told stories about how things were as they grew up. Tales of how they made it through the great depression and how people came together to help each other became a part of who I wanted to be. They told me about living through World War II and the sacrifices that were made by all to ensure our military had what it needed to win that war. Most of

all, however, the stories they told taught me what it meant to be an American, living in a land that holds endless opportunity for any willing to pursue it.

Growing up with this background made my decision to serve a very clear cut one. My thoughts focused on how very much I had been given and the choice, rather the duty, to serve this nation was obvious.

I serve because I want to give back a small portion of what I have been given. I want my children to know what it means to live in the land of the free and the home of the brave. I want others to realize the tremendous honor they have to live in a country based on the highest ideals man has ever seen. It is my constant hope and desire that others will realize what a privilege it is to be an American and take steps to serve and protect the very freedoms upon which this nation was founded.

There are men and women from every background and every walk of life who have had to make the ultimate sacrifice in service to this great nation. They knew the price of freedom was quite high and yet were willing to put their lives on the line for something that mattered more than self. That is the very essence of what makes us a great nation. As long as we have warriors ready to live and die for the ideals that America stands for, we will continue to be the greatest nation that has ever existed on this planet. I, for one, intend to honor the memory of those who have paid the ultimate price by doing everything I can to uphold the values and ideals we

hold dear in this nation and to instill them in my children.

Our very existence as a great nation depends on how well we transmit these values and ideals to the following generations. This is a daunting task for every American, and one we need to take seriously. The message of a shining city on a hill that we would like our children to see is being replaced with a far different and very harmful message. Just look at what we are faced with each day on the television, radio and in newspapers and magazines. These and other forms of daily contact bombard us with images that in many cases do not reflect our values. We have a responsibility to stand up for what we know to be true and right and to make sure our children inherit the same promise we have been given.

Freedom is not free. The emotion generated by simply stating those words is almost more than I can bear. It is the reason a tear rolls down my cheek almost every time our National Anthem is played. I stand in awe of the heroic men and women of the United States military who serve a grateful nation in thousands of locations around the world. People may say what they will about our nation and what we should or should not be doing, but I am proud to be an American living in a land that provides the brightest beacon of hope and freedom the world has ever known. I certainly intend to see that beacon continue to shine brightly for years to come.

Any questions about why we serve?

## Proper prior planning prevents pitifully poor performance

**By Staff Sgt. Thomas Brick**  
*332nd Expeditionary Contracting  
Squadron*

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq—As a young Boy Scout sitting in a junior leadership training class, I was

taught something that sticks with me to do this day.

The subject was the Seven Ps: Proper prior planning prevents pitifully poor performance.

This phrase ties in very well with our day-to-day mission here. Being

deployed to the desert puts us in the spotlight; we are the lead element of our Air Force. The Seven Ps should be utilized while deployed more than ever, because if we fail to properly plan here, then the poor perfor-

See 'Planning,' page 3

### *Border Eagle*

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**Olufemi Owolabi**

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 47th Flying Training Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

#### **Deadlines**

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Submissions can be e-mailed to: **olufemi.owolabi@laughlin.af.mil** or **sheila.johnston@laughlin.af.mil**.

#### **Advertising**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.



**Actionline**

**Col. Tod Wolters**  
47th Flying Training  
Wing commander



**Call 298-5351 or email  
actionline@laughlin.af.mil**

One way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels is the Commander's Actionline.

Before you call in or e-mail an Actionline, please try to work out the problem through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

When calling or e-mailing the Actionline, please keep messages brief and remember to include your name and phone number so you are assured of a timely personal reply. Contact information is also useful when additional information is needed to pursue your inquiry.

We will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

Below are some useful telephone numbers that may be helpful when working your issue with a base agency.

<b>AAFES</b>	298-3176
<b>Finance</b>	298-5204
<b>Civil Engineer</b>	298-5252
<b>Civilian Personnel</b>	298-5299
<b>Clinic</b>	298-6311
<b>Commissary</b>	298-5815
<b>Dormitory manager</b>	298-5213
<b>EEO</b>	298-5879
<b>FWA hotline</b>	298-4170
<b>Housing</b>	298-5904
<b>Information line</b>	298-5201
<b>Legal</b>	298-5172
<b>MEO</b>	298-5400
<b>Military Personnel</b>	298-5073
<b>Public Affairs</b>	298-5988
<b>Security Forces</b>	298-5900
<b>Services</b>	298-5810

**Thank you for your efforts during hurricane relief****View from  
the Top**

**By Gen. William R. Looney III**  
*Air Education and Training  
Command commander*

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE  
BASE** – I cannot tell you how proud I am of everyone in Air Education and Training Command for your outstanding support of national recovery efforts after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Coast Region. Thank you.

Your hard work and generosity continue to make a significant difference. It is wonderful to know that when a crisis or disaster happens, the "First Command" is ready and willing to lean forward to help wherever needed.

Everyone stepped up to the challenge. More than 500 AETC members deployed to support the stateside humanitarian efforts, with thousands more volunteering their services at their base. Sixty-six people are still deployed to various locations and willing to stay as long as it takes.

Throughout the command, men, women and children volunteered to help others in their time of need. Whether it was providing food, water and other supplies, or

sending equipment and people to assist with recovery efforts, you did an exceptional job.

My hat goes off to everyone at Keesler AFB, Miss., and detached units who endured the wrath of Hurricane Katrina. Many experienced significant property losses. With damage to Keesler property estimated at \$800 million, you have experienced losses most of us will never know.

Not only did you experience the wrath of the storm, but you went from being "victims" to being volunteers. Hundreds of Keesler residents, including trainees, worked countless hours getting the base back to normalcy and helping the surrounding communities recover.

Keesler has so many wonderful stories — from a baby delivered by Caesarean section, using flashlights for illumination, to a wedding held outside one of the shelters just days after Hurricane Katrina hit. There are countless other stories of the human spirit overcoming tragedy.

Every AETC base participated in helping those in need, and some are still assisting recovery efforts.

Our airlift at Altus AFB, Okla., and Little Rock AFB, Ark., transported almost 1.7 million pounds of humanitarian aid, as well as equipment and people, to support recovery efforts. Little Rock was

also selected to be the hub for international aid and coordinated the logistics for nearly 4 million pounds of humanitarian aid from countries around the globe.

We set up the Federal Emergency Management Agency at Maxwell AFB, Ala., as the distribution point for supplies and equipment being sent to areas affected by the hurricanes.

Lackland AFB partnered with the city of San Antonio to shelter and care for more than 10,000 people displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. These efforts included helping off-load passengers airlifted to the base, providing medical assistance, and transporting displaced persons to shelters and hospitals around the city.

Several other AETC bases housed those displaced by the hurricane. Many of our folks even opened their homes to those in need. Others left their homes and families to go where their skills were needed.

In appreciation for your hard work, I have designated Nov. 14 as a command down day.

We are truly blessed in AETC to have such highly motivated, talented and dedicated warriors who make it happen every day.

I could not be more proud of the people in this great command. Thank you and keep up the great work.

**Planning**, from page 2

the loss of life or multimillion dollar aircraft.

But the Seven Ps aren't just useful for the big things; they are useful in everyday operations and can make your job much easier.

When any project comes to you, you should immediately set a plan in motion to not only get it accomplished, but to get it accomplished the right way.

We never should just slap something together and call it good.

Field-expedient fixes are fine, but as soon as we get that fix in

place we need to start planning to do it right and not just put it off. This goes back to our core value of "Excellence in all we do;" it is something that sets us apart.

This also applies to procedures and plans that were in place before we arrived.

If you see something you know is not working well and causes problems, don't just shrug it off and say, "That is how we do it here," do something to change it.

As a Boy Scout, I was taught to leave a place better than I found it. That can mean simply cleaning up after yourself and

what others may have left behind, or it could mean improving the place by making things work better. You can create a plan that makes your shop more efficient or solves a problem others have left behind.

Do you really want to deal with a field-expedient fix for some extended period of time? Do you want to just meet the minimum requirement of the mission without really accomplishing much?

Take advantage of your time to make your shop and your base better for you and those who will follow you by using the Seven Ps.

**298-HOME**

Fridays + Saturdays:  
10 p.m. to 3 a.m.  
Free and open to all base  
personnel.



Newslines

Education town hall meeting scheduled

An education town hall meeting will be conducted 7 p.m. Wednesday in the base theater. Discussion will be led by Col. Thomas Arko, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, and will include issues parents have with the San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District.

All Laughlin personnel, living on or off base, who have children attending school are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Quarterly award luncheon

The 47th Flying Training Wing Third Quarter Awards Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. Oct. 26 at Club XL.

All nominees should R.S.V.P. with Master Sgt. Rufino Gonzalez at 298-5222.

Commanders and distinguished visitors should R.S.V.P. with the protocol office at 298-4708 or 298-4709.

All others planning on attending should contact their unit representatives to sign up on the pro rata sheet.

For more information, call 298-5222 or 298-5703.

1X3  
VFW

Rumsfeld addresses ‘growing confusion’ over war on terror

By Kathleen T. Rhem  
American Forces  
Press Service

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld suggested to military men and women at a town hall meeting here Tuesday how they might answer questions stemming from “growing confusion and some misunderstanding” about the global war on terror.

Speaking to a group of Airmen from the 6th Air Mobility Wing and other servicemembers from U.S. Central Command and U.S. Southern Command, Secretary Rumsfeld noted the troops might be getting questions from others about what America is trying to accomplish in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“Well, you can tell those who ask such questions you and your friends across the world are standing on the front lines to protect them and safeguard their freedoms, as well as your own,” he said.

“And you can tell them something else: America is not what’s wrong with this world,” he added. “What’s wrong with this world are the terrorists, the ‘beheaders,’ the hostage-takers, the assassins — the people our forces are fighting every day in a number of locations — they’re what’s wrong with the world. And our country’s finest men and women are out there meeting them every day. “

Secretary Rumsfeld said it is not the mission of the U.S. military to “cower behind illusory defenses” because “defenses don’t work. “ The only defense,

he said, is to go on the offensive, to stop terrorists before they attack America.

“Your mission is to be on the offense; it’s to go on the attack,” he said. “And that’s what our forces are doing: they’re engaging the enemy where they live so they do not attack us where we live. “

America has one goal in the war on global terrorism: “It’s victory — unconditional, unapologetic and unyielding,” Secretary Rumsfeld said.

The secretary acknowledged war is “costly in its pain and the tragedies. “

“Every loss of life and every injury weighs on our hearts and on the hearts of America,” he said.

For America’s fighting men and women to prevail against the enemy they battle on foreign shores is the only way to secure this country’s freedom in the future, Secretary Rumsfeld said. “You fight today so our children and their children might not have to experience the heart-break of something like Sept. 11,”

he said. “And the men and women in uniform — you and your associates all across the globe — are displaying resolute courage, the kind of courage that’s defined our country through the generations. “

In a question-and-answer session, an Air Force captain suggested part of the military’s perception problem stems from the tone of civilian media reports.

The man’s question elicited loud applause from the crowd. Secretary Rumsfeld agreed, but said it’s servicemembers’ responsibility to speak up about what they believe.

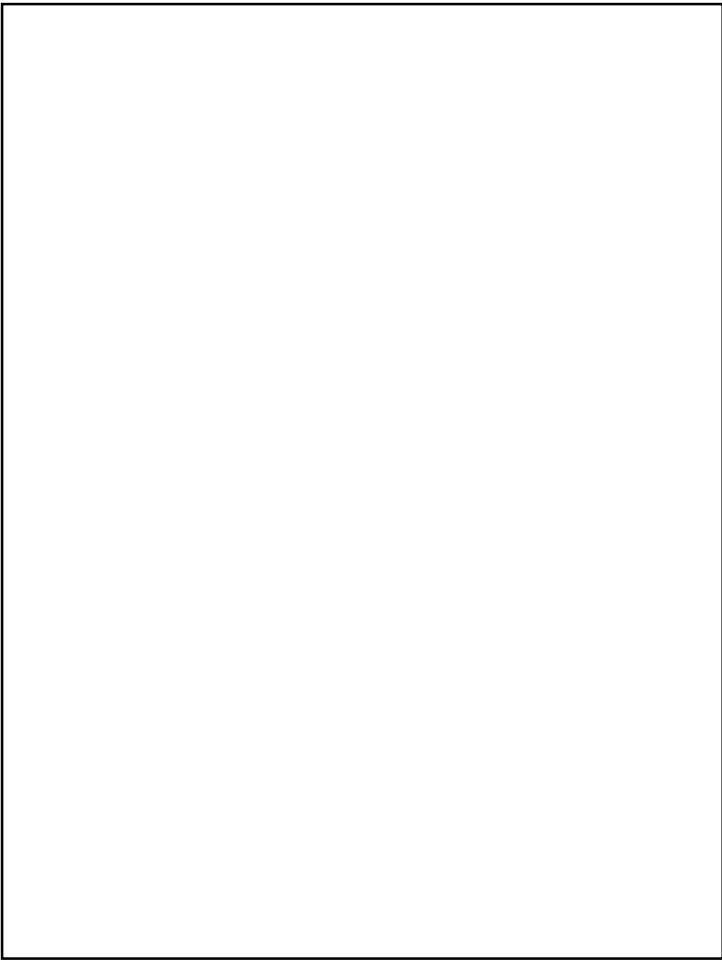
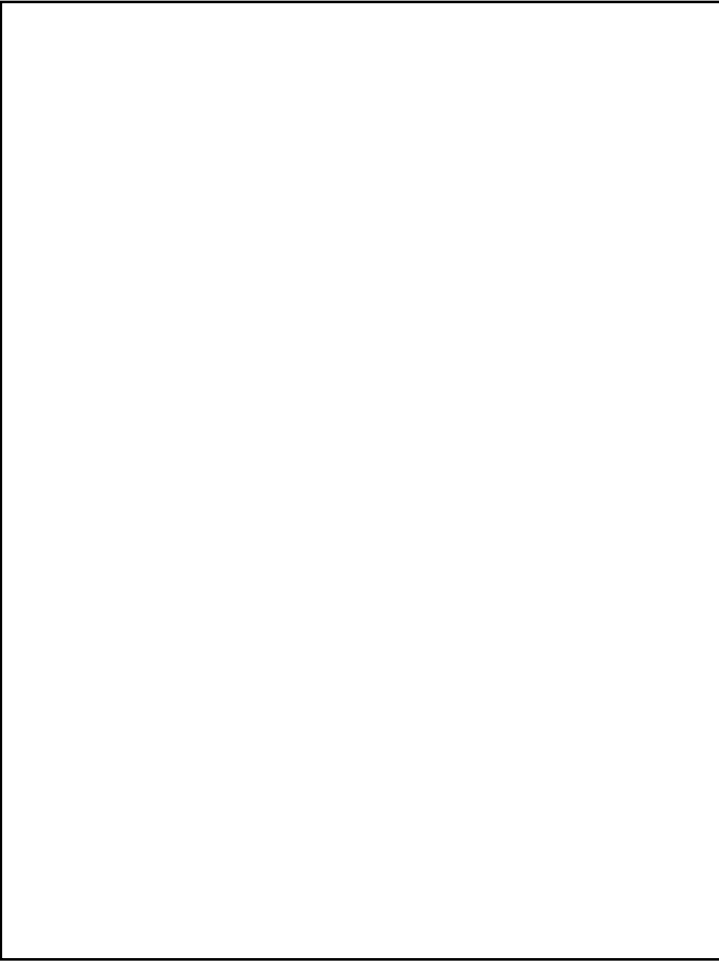
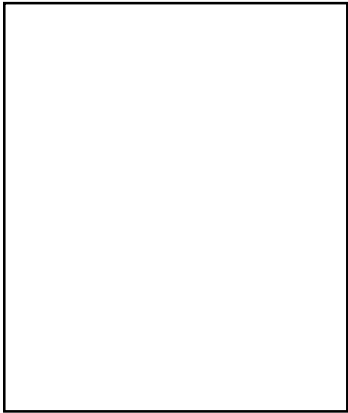
Secretary Rumsfeld said today’s servicemembers will look back on their achievements with enormous pride. Yet, he said, “one asks why is it that the public impression is so different from the reality.

The antidote to media bias toward bad news is to flood the world with good news through e-mails and other communications home, Secretary Rumsfeld said.

He said American service-

members deployed overseas are sending e-mails that are in direct conflict with what’s be-

ing presented in the aggregate in the United States and in the rest of the world.



# End-of-year funds aim to improve quality of life

By Master Sgt. Anthony Hill  
Public Affairs

After spending four months preparing for the fiscal 2005 closeout, Laughlin received \$13.3 million in fallout funds, making Sept. 30 an especially busy day for personnel working in finance and contracting.

The money, about \$4 million less than what Laughlin received from Air Education and Training Command last fiscal year, will go toward improving quality of life for base members, said Jim Capozziello, 47th Comptroller Squadron financial analyst.

The 47th Civil Engineer Squadron will use the largest amount of the funds, about \$9.5 million. Those funds will be used for infrastructure improvement of some buildings such as upgrading the heating, ventilation and air conditioning, along with the alarm system in building 328 and

renovating the unaccompanied officers quarters.

Other base projects that will use fallout funds include repairing the fitness field at the base track, purchasing new furniture for the enlisted dorms, renovating Club Amistad, installing lights on the running trail, and renovating the tennis courts.

Another \$200K will be used for new computers and a base-wide refreshing of information technology. An additional \$100K will be used to upgrade classroom projectors within the operations group.

Although the civil engineer squadron received most of the funds, base members will benefit the most, said Mr. Capozziello.

“CE will spend the money on things that will make life more comfortable for people on base,” he said.

The planning process started at the top with the wing commander’s vision to improve quality of life for

all Team XL members, said Maj. Michael Greiner, 47th CPTS commander.

“I think you can see by the projects that were funded this year, Laughlin was very successful in realizing this goal,” he said.

Fiscal year-end closeout is a total team effort, Major Greiner said. “There’s not one organization on base that isn’t involved in securing and utilizing these resources for Laughlin.”

Mr. Capozziello credited the partnership between finance, supply, contracting, the civil engineer and communications squadrons, as well as resource advisors for helping make this year’s closeout such a success.

Sept. 30 was a long day for the group as many staff members worked well into the early morning hours of Oct. 1 finalizing the end-of-year closeout process and gearing up for the new fiscal year.

According to Maj. Ronnie Doud, 47th Contracting Squadron commander, 33 contracts were finalized with end-of-year funds.

“With the assistance of unit resource advisors, our finance and civil engineering partners, we were ready (to activate our spending plan),” said Major Doud. “Amazingly, we did it while supporting hurricane relief operations and preparing for the potential of another.”

The major added that early planning, hard work and long hours, coupled with the ability to overcome last-minute challenges, were key ingredients to the wing’s fiscal success.

“Not surprising,” he said. “Team XL demonstrated these qualities throughout fiscal 2005 to accomplish 400 contracting actions valued at \$44 million with one goal in mind...‘to train expeditionary airpower experts to fight and win America’s wars.’”

## Air Force names captain as most promising military engineer

By Rudi Williams  
American Forces  
Press Service

ANAHEIM, Calif.—An officer assigned to Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., was named this year’s most promising military engineer at the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference here Oct. 7.

Air Force Capt. Eduardo D. Aguilar received the honor at the annual conference’s awards show.

HENAAC’s mission is to enlighten the nation about the achievements of Hispanics in engineering, science, technology and math, conference officials said. The conference also strives to motivate and educate more students to pursue careers in these fields, and to increase the role the Hispanic community plays in maintaining America’s status as the

world’s technology leader, officials added.

“Eduardo Aguilar began his career in the U. S. Air Force in 1999 with enough energy to launch a rocket,” said Air Force Brig. Gen. William N. McCasland, vice commander of the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base. “Soon the young aeronautical engineer was, in fact, launching rockets carrying payloads that affected everything from our nation’s national security to international humanitarian relief operations. “ The general said Aguilar excelled as a test engineer, leading to a special three-month assignment at the NASA Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. There, he worked on the joint NASA-Air Force F/A-18A active aeroelastic wing research program. His responsibilities included ground test

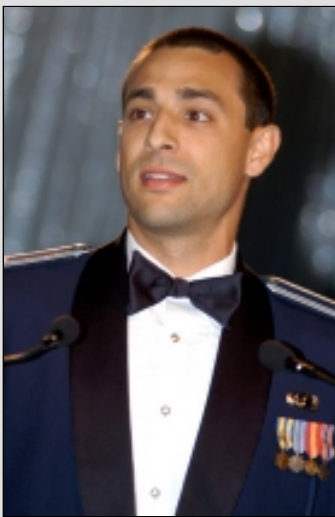


Photo by Rudi Williams

**Air Force Capt. Eduardo D. Aguilar said he’s proud to have worked in programs that support the troops and help to defend the country. He was named most promising military engineer at the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference held Oct. 7 in Anaheim, Calif.**

data monitoring, test data reduction and verifying test data accuracy. “His significant contributions were credited with preventing schedule delays that would have cost over a half million dollars,” McCasland said.

Promoted to captain in 2002, Aguilar was assigned to the Directorate of Launch Programs at the Space and Missile Systems Center. “He served as the lead Titan avionics and electrical engineer for all Titan IV, Centaur and Titan II launch vehicle avionics and battery hardware,” McCasland said. “His ability to meet the level of perfection that these systems required led to the flawless performance on five critical space launches.”

Aguilar now is chief of the 50-member Block IIF space integration team for the Global Positioning System. Block IIF satellites are the next generation of GPS

space vehicles. Improvements include an extended design life of 12 years, faster processors with more memory, and a new civil signal on a third frequency. The first Block IIF satellite is scheduled to launch in 2007.

Accepting his award, Aguilar said each path one takes in life leads to challenges, but the path that leads to success will always be the most difficult.

“My education always remained my priority,” he said. “I’m very proud that I’ve worked in programs that support our troops and help to defend our country. “

Aguilar is a frequent participant in the outreach program of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers of Greater Los Angeles. “As a proud Mexican American,” he said, “I enjoy working with our Hispanic youth to share my enthusiasm for rocketry and satellites. “

4X10

19th AF , from page 1

cluding 240 combat hours in the F-15C and F-15E in support of Operation Northern Watch.

Headquarters 19th Air Force is responsible for managing all flying training within Air Education and Training Command.

The numbered air force includes more than 31,000 people and operates over 1,800 aircraft of 21 different models flying more than 580,000 hours annually.

The headquarters here is responsible for the execution of Air Force initial qualification and follow-on combat crew flying training programs with graduates reporting to warfighting commands.

The 19th Air Force also conducts annual aircrew standardization and evaluation visits to its units to assess the effectiveness of training programs.

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# ‘Gateway to Europe’ ends 60-year airlift legacy

By Airman 1st Class  
Eric Donner  
469th Air Base Group  
public affairs

RHEIN-MAIN AIR BASE, Germany—Although 60 years of airlift legacy came to a close, the “spirit” of this base will endure.

The long-time airlift hub closed during a Monday ceremony attended by U.S. and German dignitaries.

A C-17 Globemaster III bearing the name “Spirit of Rhein-Main” was unveiled by Lt. Gen. Christopher Kelly, Air Mobility Command vice commander; Col. Brad Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander; and retired Col. Gail Halvorsen, the famed “Candy Bomber” of the Berlin Airlift.

More than 800 servicemembers, veterans, civilian employees and well-wishers turned out to say farewell to the former “Gateway to Europe.”

A C-17 with the moniker, “Spirit of Berlin,” made the symbolic last flight following the ceremony, dipping its wing toward Rhein-Main’s hangars in a final goodbye.

Gen. Robert H. “Doc” Foglesong, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, said the closure marks an ending and a beginning, referring to Frankfurt International Airport’s planned expansion. Airport officials plan to add a third passenger terminal, which will be built where the base



Photos by Staff Sgt. Marie Cassetty

**(From left) Lt. Gen. Christopher A. Kelley, Air Mobility Command vice commander; retired Lt. Col. Gail Halvorsen; and Col. Bradley Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander, unveil the newly named C-17 Globemaster III “Spirit of Rhein-Main” during the base closure ceremony here Oct. 10. The ceremony officially marked an end of 60 years of airlift history. Flying at the base ended Sept. 30 and the “Gateway to Europe” will transition to Ramstein and Spangdahlem Air Bases in Germany.**

currently stands. The general highlighted several groups that have served here over the years, from the veterans of the 1948 to 1949 Berlin Airlift to the current Airmen with the 469th ABG tasked with officially closing the base in December.

“From a grateful nation,” said General Foglesong, “I’m here to say thank you to all those individuals that made this base famous.”

U.S. Ambassador to Germany William R. Timken Jr. said although the base’s legacy will not be forgotten, its closure marks a transition.

“This transition is part of a larger strategy to prepare NATO to meet the challenges of the 21st Century — to defend freedom, strengthen democracy and provide a stable environment where prosperity can grow,” he said.

Since 1949, Rhein-Main and the Frankfurt International Airport worked together to create the U.S. military’s most important airlift base in Europe — not only on the military side, but on the commercial side as well.

Dr. Wilhelm Bender, the airport’s chairman of the board of executives, said it is with sadness that Rhein-Main comes to a close.

“Together we safeguarded peace and freedom,” he said. “The closure is historic and emotional because we have to say goodbye to our American friends.”

After the ceremony, guests toured static display aircraft representing airlift and air refueling planes from the base’s past.

The final military mission left here Sept. 26 and the final com-

mercial flight took off Sept. 30, ending the operational mission of the base. The base’s vital airlift support mission transitioned to Ramstein and Spangdahlem air bases Oct. 1.

2X2

2X2

2X2

1X3

2X3





**Master Sgt. Randall Williams**  
*Superintendent Training and Resources*  
*47th Security Forces Squadron*

**Hometown:** Avoca, N.Y.

**Family:** Wife, sons, and Daughter, Jennifer

**Time at Laughlin:** 2 years and 8 months

**Time in military service:** 20 years

**Greatest accomplishment:** Raising a family

**Hobbies:** Playing golf, basketball, fishing and playing anything with my kids

**Bad habit:** Eating too much fast food

**Favorite movie:** "Star Trek," "Forrest Gump," "There's Something about Mary" or almost anything with a happy ending

**If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why?** President Ronald Reagan. He had a way of making everyone

feel good about being an American. I think we can all learn something from his eternal optimism and his belief in something greater than all of us.

**"Master Sgt. Randall Williams is by far one of the most hardworking individuals in the entire unit; he is the backbone of the 47th Security Forces Squadron. He selflessly postponed his retirement to help the unit out with end-of-year budget items as well as ensuring 15 troops made it out the door with ease in support of current war efforts. He is a vital resource and has a wealth of knowledge that will surely be missed when he does decide to retire!"**

**--Second Lt. Jason Hardy,**  
47th Security Forces Squadron



Photo by Master Sgt. R. Steve Milligan

## Base legal office warns members of 'jury-duty' scam

**By Capt. Lance Smith**  
*47th Flying Training Wing*  
*judge advocate office*

Identity thieves hit a new low recently when they began specifically targeting servicemembers with a scam which has come to be known as the "Jury Duty Scam." The name and method of the scam have changed but the objective has not...the scammers want your personal information.

A warning once again to Team XL, "Be alert!" Don't be distracted by the stories that scammers tell, whether it be the jury-duty story or any other. Use common sense and protect personal information.

The jury-duty scam be-

gins with the scammer calling the victim on the telephone and identifying himself as an officer or employee of the local court.

The scammer then announces to the victim that he or she has failed to report for jury duty, and a bench warrant was issued against the victim for his arrest.

The victim attempts to explain he has not received notification and asks the question the scammer has been waiting for, "What do I need to do now?" The scammer then shifts into high gear reassuring the victim of the possibility this is "just a misunderstanding" or "some sort of clerical error" that can be straightened out over the phone.

Relieved, the victim is

willing to do anything to avoid arrest.

The scammer then tells the victim all he needs to do is verify his information with a few simple questions. The victim then volunteers his personal information including his social security number, date of birth and even credit card number.

Scammers take the jury-duty scam even further when dealing with servicemembers and their families. Servicemembers are reminded of the effect an arrest would have on their career, and family members who receive these calls are especially vulnerable to coercion.

Threats against the sponsor's military career,

should he or she now have a criminal record, are frightening and persuasive. Airmen, civilian employees and their adult family members should be aware of this threat to their personal information and identities.

Legitimate court employees will never call to solicit your personal information. They will send official notifications by standard mail delivery.

The threat of being arrested is meant to distract victims and stop them from thinking clearly.

Maintain your bearing; protect yourself.

Any person receiving such calls should be proactive. Just because they didn't get you, don't let them get away to scam

someone else. Record the scammer's phone number (if caller ID is available) and immediately report the contact to the 47th Security Forces Squadron.

Identities can be stolen in any number of ways, most of which are outside of our control.

This method, however, is totally within your control. Stay focused, use your common sense, and protect your personal information.

If you suspect you have been a victim of fraud or identity theft, visit the legal office during the walk-in legal assistance hours (Tuesdays from 3 to 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 8 to 9 a.m.).

Call 298-5172 for more information.

# SUPT develops fleet

**By Airman 1st Class  
Olufemi Owolabi  
Editor**

Flying is nothing like learning how to drive a car. One cannot stop immediately, pull over beside a curb and get out if there is a problem. The way an emergency or problem is handled in flight depends on the quality of training received by the pilot.

An instructor pilot here described Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training as an intense and rigorous program necessary to accomplish future real-world missions.

According to Maj. Rick Alderete, 85th Flying Training Squadron assistant director of operations, "pilot training is intense and extremely rewarding." In approximately four short months, stu-

dent pilots learn to fly and manage a multimillion dollar aircraft system including malfunctions and other (abnormal) flying-related situations.

"During pilot training, students experience a stressful environment, so when they are out there by themselves and experience an unusual or abnormal situation, they can manage the situation professionally," Major Alderete said. "When students first show up on the line, they are usually on duty for a maximum of 12 hours, which does not include time at home or the dorms studying and preparing for the next day's missions."

Students concentrate solely on academics for the first six weeks of training. During this period, students learn about the various aircraft systems. This is called Phase I of pilot training.

During Phase I, students visit the 47th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron's aerospace physiology where they gain knowledge on various physiological effects they may encounter while flying. They learn how to recognize and treat hypoxia, parachute and ejection procedures, egress/survival training and the effects of increased G-loading on the body.

Students receive training from both instructors and computer-based/aided lessons. "In the first phase, we learned about T-6 aircraft parts; how they work, and how to troubleshoot the airplane," said 2nd Lt. William Murphy, an SUPT Class 06-10 student pilot. "We also learned what the local flying procedures were, and how we operate at Laughlin."

Furthermore, local flying proce-

dures are applied while flying the simulator. In the simulator, students can experience real-time simulated emergencies and are subsequently evaluated on their overall performance during the scenario.

"This phase of training comes into play in real life because we need to know how things are integrated and how they work together," the lieutenant said. "We need to know the fundamentals of flying parts. For instance, if my radio breaks, I know what part of the airplane that could be."

In addition, he said the amount of emphasis students place on the first phase determines how well they do in other phases. "If you don't do well in the first phase, it will be hard to do well in the other phases," Lieutenant Murphy added.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Olufemi Owolabi

Capt. James Detweiler and 2nd Lt. Andrew Webb check their life support equipment before their flight here Oct. 4.



# edgling aviators **Part 1 of 2**

The students are assigned to either the 84th or 85th FTS, and after their first six weeks at Laughlin, they move to the second phase of pilot training.

When students arrive in either of these two squadrons, they are assigned to a flight. Each flight is comprised of approximately six instructor pilots and about 12 students (these numbers vary based on manning).

Phase two lasts approximately four months. In this phase, students initially focus on flying basics; learning how to takeoff and land and getting to and from an area where they practice various flight maneuvers referred to as 'basic contact.' Training in the simulator during this phase is essential and is integrated into the students training.

"In phase II, we focus on flying and applying lessons learned during academics," said Major Alderete. "Our job as instructor pilots is to make (the students) professional military pilots and to give them the flying skills required to begin their next phase of training whether it be T-38s, T-1s, T-44s or Helicopters." The students' first goal in Phase II is to solo the T-6A Texan II. Most students will solo in approximately 18 hours of flight time (13 flight lessons).

In addition to basic contact, students progress in their training by learning how to fly using navigational skills and the aircraft instruments to fly in different weather. They also learn how to fly in formation (two aircraft flying in close proximity to each other), and they get an introduction to low-level navigation (flying 500 feet above the ground in an attempt to arrive at a point in space (on a specified route) at a pre-calculated time using dead reckoning).

Major Alderete explained dead reckoning as "the ability to fly a properly planned route by flying accurate headings and airspeeds to arrive "on target on time."

Students will face the challenge of learning a lot of information in a short

time. Unfortunately, a few students face additional challenges such as airsickness, difficulty in hand-eye coordination and the inability to manage multiple tasks, which have the potential to warrant elimination from the SUPT program.

"The second phase of pilot training is much more intense, and everything goes up a notch. During this phase, everything we do is within 12 hours," Lieutenant Murphy explained. "The workload increases."

Through the entire program, students must meet prescribed standards established by the flying training program syllabus. For example, prior to soloing the T-6, students should be able to maintain a certain airspeed on final; land in a certain distance and roll out on final within the width of the runway. Students should also be able to maintain an assigned altitude within 150 feet. During training, the instructor pilot shoulders the burden of ensuring the student is safe and progresses in accordance with the syllabus.

Lieutenant Murphy recalled the first time he soloed. "At first, it was scary," he said. "Once you get into the airplane, everything is strangely quiet. Then you take off and it dawns on you that you must land at some point, and you're the only one who can do it."

Moreover, he said the instructors had done a good job in preparing students before they solo.

The biggest reward of pilot training, according to Major Alderete, is witnessing, on a daily basis, the progression of your student. There's a certain pride you feel when your students stand up at the ceremony concluding Phase II, Track Select, and gets their first choice of aircraft in Phase III training.

In addition, the 85th FTS commander, Lt. Col. Daniel Gernert said, "The basic habit patterns that students learn in phase II are crucial to their success as aviators in the Air Force.

Our mission is to instill good habit patterns that will serve the student well regardless of what aircraft they end up flying. Once in the follow-on aircraft, basic flying must be something that does not need to be consciously thought about while attention is paid to completing the assigned mission. Our instructors bring a wealth of experience to the training environment to ensure our students depart Phase II training equipped with a solid understanding of

what is required to be successful in the flying environment."

### Editor's Note:

*This is the first of a two-part series on Laughlin's Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training program.*

*See part two in next week's Border Eagle which will focus on student pilots training in the T-1 and T-38 tracks.*



**Capt. James Detweiler, an instructor pilot here, briefs 2nd Lt. Andrew Webb, a student pilot with Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 06-10, before his flight Oct. 4. Lieutenant Webb is in the second phase of pilot training.**

# Preventing domestic violence requires community involvement

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, an observance that evolved from the first Day of Unity conducted in October of 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

The organizer’s goal for the Day of Unity was to connect the battered women’s advocates and the various grass-root organizations from across the nation. These individuals were intent on working to end violence against women and their children.

The Day of Unity soon became a special week that in turn evolved into October’s Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The common themes for the month’s activities are to mourn those who died as a result of domestic violence, celebrate those who have survived, and connect those who work to end domestic violence.

The primary mission of the Family Advocacy Program is to prevent domestic violence. The staff also assesses and provides treatment for cases which have been found to meet the criteria of abuse.

The staff collaborates

with a number of organizations and individuals in the community to better ensure the safety of active duty members and their families.

To ensure a safe community, each of us can take some responsibility and the necessary steps to make certain our families are free from any form of abuse.

Family violence is not the sole responsibility of Family Advocacy, security forces, police departments, courts or Child Protection Services.

The informal networks many of us utilize are the foundation for prevention and intervention efforts. This is a major insulator for family violence.

The ability to call on friends, family and the community for assistance appears to mitigate violent reactions to stress, according to researchers Richard Gelles and Suzanne Steinmetz.

In general, other researchers have found the more a family is integrated into a community, the less likelihood there is of violent behaviors.

Each of us can do a lot more to impact the issue of family violence.

Volunteer and share your time, energy and expertise with organizations that support our children and families.

Develop relationships and form alliances with the individuals and families who receive the beneficial services from these organizations.

Share the military’s “can do” attitude and model appropriate ways of showing your love and respect for loved ones.

Learn more about family violence and child abuse. Understand the signs and symptoms of family violence from the numerous websites, articles, books, songs, movies and other resources.

Listen when a victim has the courage and trust to confide in you that he or she is a victim of domestic violence. Know your resources on base and in the community, and refer victims to these services.

Call Family Advocacy at 298-6422 and share your concerns. The responsibility for successful intervention with domestic violence rests with each one of us.

*(Courtesy Laughlin Family Advocacy)*

**Domestic Violence Awareness Month:  
Helping to free families from abuse**





## What's up Doc?

By Col. Laura Torres-Reyes  
47th Medical Group  
commander

**Question:** I have recurring episodes of dizziness that I take Dramamine for. I recently went on a cruise and had a terrible worsening of my dizziness that Dramamine didn't help with. The ship's doctor gave me a medicine called Medi-Meclizine that really helped. What is in Medi-Meclizine,

and how can I get some for future use?.

**Answer:** Dizziness is one of the most common reasons older adults visit their doctors.

While aging increases the risk of developing a condition that may cause recurring dizziness, it is rarely a sign of a serious or life-threatening condition.

Of course, the worst part of experiencing dizziness is that it can become disabling or incapacitating if serious enough, and is often accompanied by unrelenting nausea.

There are many causes of dizziness that can include a condition called Meniere's disease, like you told me you have been diagnosed with. The disease involves an excessive buildup of fluid in the inner ear that results in sud-

den episodes of vertigo lasting for hours or days. It is usually accompanied by a feeling of fullness in the ear, a buzzing or ringing called tinnitus, and fluctuating hearing loss.

The cause of Meniere's disease is unknown. Treatment for Meniere's includes avoiding the use of caffeine, alcohol, and foods containing a high amount of salt. Anti-nausea medications like Dramamine (dimenhydrinate) may also be useful, but have the side effect of causing drowsiness.

The medication you were given contains 25 milligrams of the chemical meclizine hydrochloride, which is actually the exact same dose and chemical that's in the product Dramamine Less Drowsy Formula you can get over the counter. It is important for anyone

who experiences recurring episodes of dizziness to get a full evaluation by a health care provider to rule out underlying problems with the heart or central nervous system.

Also, because our balance system is close to the hearing system in our brain, it is important to be evaluated for hearing loss.

If you experience more frequent or severe episodes, please make sure you make an appointment with your Primary Care Manager for follow-up.

Thank you so much for your question!

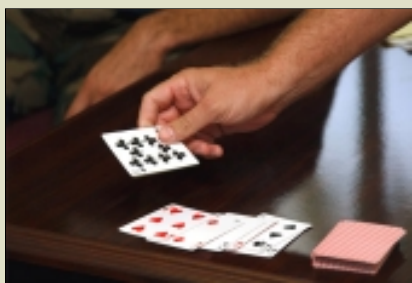
You may contact Colonel Torres-Reyes at laura.torres-reyes@laughlin.af.mil if you have a What's Up Doc? question.



Air Force photos

## Airmen push to limit with turn of a card..

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** — Lt. Col. Jeff Sheppard knocks out one of more than 16,000 push-ups he has done during his rotation here at a forward-deployed location. He is shooting for 17,000. What began as a challenge among several Airmen has become what some would call obsession. The "game" is simple enough. Participants get together with a deck of playing cards. After the deck has been shuffled and cut, the first person draws the top card. The value of the card represents the number of push-ups the person is required to do. Face cards are assigned a value of 10 push-ups, with aces worth either one



or 11, at the individual's choice. The "game" continues around the room until all the cards have been drawn and all the push-ups completed. Simple enough. Until one realizes the game is played every duty day. As the deployment progresses, the number of push-ups will double, then triple the face value of the cards.

## Uniform board meets this month

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — The Air Force Uniform Board meets here Thursday and Oct. 21 to consider Air Force uniform improvements and standardization.

The board will address various requirements, including the Airman's new battle dress uniform, and AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel.

The major commands have gathered and submitted their recommendations to the board for review.

The board will take a close look at the Air Force physical training uniform and determine its requirements, said Senior Master Sgt. Dana Athnos, Air Force Uniform Board chief.

In addition, a women's uniform focus group met at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, to discuss standardization of the women's uniform items.

"We pulsed the field for inputs from about 700 female commanders and first sergeants," Sergeant Athnos said. "The focus group whittled down the suggestions and they came up with about 30 recommendations to present to the board, ranging from footwear to accessories."

The board last met in June 2003, and determined cell phone use and scarves.

The Air Force will release the results from the October board within a few weeks of the meeting.

The USAF has not established a mandatory "wear date" for the new PT Uniform. Units should NOT mandate the wear or purchase of this uniform by their members. The 97th AF Uniform Board will convene Oct. 21 in which the PT uniform will be discussed and may result in modification of some aspects of the uniform. When a mandatory "wear date" is established units will be notified. In the interim members should not be forced to purchase the existing PT uniform, even if they have received the increased clothing allowance.

-Headquarters AETC

